POETRY

FOUNDED IN 1912 BY HARRIET MONROE

VOLUME CLIX • OCTOBER 1991 THROUGH MARCH 1992

POETRY

EDITED *by* JOSEPH PARISI

Managing Editor HELEN LOTHROP KLAVITER

Associate Editor STEPHEN YOUNG

Editorial Assistants REX WILDER
WILLIAM D. FALLOON

60 West Walton Street • Chicago, Illinois 60610

CONTENTS OF VOLUME 159

CONTRIBUTORS OF VERSE

A. R. Ammons / 1
An Improvisation for the Pieties of Modernism
An Improvisation for Angular Momentum
An Improvisation for Soot and Suet

Renée A. Ashley / 253
Missing You

_____ / 319
Pressing the Body On

David Baker / 323
Charming
The Extinction of the Dinosaurs

David Barber / 255
The Favor

Wendy Barker / 264
Reason of Lace

Georgi Belev / 20
Train
Tale
(Tr. by Lisa Sapinkopf)

Randy Blasing / 200
Mother Tongue

Chana Bloch / 275
The Secret Life
The Ghost Worm Monster
Inside
Tuesday

Michael Blumenthal / 95
And the Wages of Goodness Are Not Assured
Ordinary Heartbreaks

Neal Bowers / 221
Art Thief

_____ / 262
The Half Life
Repairs

Lucille Broderson / 142
September Sunday
This Is Your Old Age, Lucy
Requiem

T. Alan Broughton / 24
Lyric

Thomas Brush / 145
Stars

Christopher Buckley / 83
Reincarnation
Isotropic

Ioanna Carlsen / 135
Two Songs from a Car

Turner Cassity / 209
Monumental Is More Than a Question of Scale
At the Palace of Fine Arts
Meaner Than a Junkyard Dog; or, Turner's Evil Twin

Sergiu Celac (Tr. with Adam J. Sorkin) / 18
Two poems by Daniela Crăsnaru

David Citino / 125
Winter

Billy Collins / 19
The Art of Drowning

_____ / 137
Fiftieth Birthday Eve
Dancing Toward Bethlehem

_____ / 189
Paperwork

Luciana Costea (Tr. with W. D. Snodgrass & Dona Rosu) / 191
Four poems by Marin Sorescu

Steven Cramer / 22
The Game

POETRY

Daniela Crăsnaru / 18
Lethal Dose
Breath
(Tr. by Adam J. Sorkin & Sergiu Celac)

W. S. Di Piero / 218
On a Picture by Cézanne

Tom Disch / 195
Three People and Their Feelings
Red Tulips in 1947
Remarks Concerning the Fitness of All Things
Villanelle for Charles Olson

Mark Doty / 155
To Bessie Drennan

Elliot Figman / 273
Night and Day

Gary Fincke / 219
The Elephant Paintings

Richard Foerster / 313
The Hours

Alice Friman / 31
Invitation to a Minor Poet

Max Garland / 92
Revisiting the Sistine Chapel

Stephen Gibson / 217
Woman with Crysanthemums

Sandra M. Gilbert / 97
The Magi in Florida
In the Garage of the Retirement Complex
Indoor Camellia

William Greenway / 14
Hypochondria

Susan Hahn / 206
Calendar

Jeffrey Harrison / 12
Mycology

Martha Hollander / 272
Giorgione's Tempest: *Another Story*

Richard Howard / 201
To a Librettist at Liberty

Marcia L. Hurlow / 274
Nuclear Romance

Jean Janzen / 148
St. Basil's Cathedral

Sam F. Johnson / 205
Eye Rising

Alice Jones / 279
Brother and Sister

Mary Karr / 258
Don Giovanni's Confessor

Susan Kelly-DeWitt / 91
Francis in Ecstasy

Richard Kenney / 63
Lucifer

Ann B. Knox / 254
Circles

Larry Kramer / 149
Wild Onions

_____ / 207
The Public Monuments

Daniel J. Langton / 30
Everything Is Clear Except Events

Robert J. Levy / 15
On Looking at a Photo of Myself, Age 10, After a Tonsillectomy

_____ / 127
The Parents
Beyond Recipes

Robert Long / 320
Return to Nowheresville
Tie City

Rick Madigan / 146
Sacraments

Jayanta Mahapatra / 17
Farewell

Stephen Matanle / 213
Errand

William Matthews / 25
Reticence
The Buddy Bolden Cylinder
Mingus at The Showplace
Three Translations from Martial's Epigrams

Victoria McCabe / 331
Outline for a Life of Balzac

Sandra McPherson / 5
Genius of Fog at Ecola Creek Mouth

W. S. Merwin / 251
Search Party

Stanley Moss / 151
Stations

Mary Oliver / 7
Rain

Alicia Ostriker / 203
What I Want

Sonia Raiziss / 214
Cocktail Aquarium

James Richardson / 337
Post-Romantic

Robert Richman / 257
Possession

Dona Rosu (Tr. with W. D. Snodgrass & Luciana Costea) / 191
Four poems by Marin Sorescu

Ernest Sandeen / 141
Soon After Nightfall

Lisa Sapinkopf (Tr.) / 20
Two poems by Georgi Belev

Terry Savoie / 153
Hairbrush
School for Missionaries

Robert B. Shaw / 325
Last Days in Camden

Enid Shomer / 340
Pope Joan

Floyd Skloot / 131
Solstice

W. D. Snodgrass (Tr. with Dona Rosu & Luciana Costea) / 191
Four poems by Marin Sorescu

Marvin Solomon / 136
Emily's Room

_____ / 318
The Headache That Wasn't There, Isn't There

Cathy Song / 132
Eat
Christmas Eve

Marin Sorescu / 191
Creation
Solemnly
Thieves
I Bound Up the Trees' Eyes
(Tr. by W. D. Snodgrass with Dona Rosu & Luciana Costea)

Adam J. Sorkin (Tr. with Sergiu Celac) / 18
Two poems by Daniela Crăsnaru

Gabriel Spera / 260
My Ex-Husband

Stephen Stepanchev / 87
November

Julie Suk / 266
Remembering the Plot
Playing Against Sleep
Beyond the Hill
Quicksilver
La Tempesta

Daniel Tobin / 88
Passages

Ronald Wallace / 281
February 14

William Collins Watterson / 139
Eine Kleine Nachtmusik

_____ / 222
To a Young Museum Guard

William Wenthe / 338
Trope

J. P. White / 216
Degas

CONTRIBUTORS OF PROSE

David Baker / 283
Smarts
Singularities, by Susan Howe
The Never-Ending, by Andrew Hudgins
Bethlehem in Broad Daylight, by Mark Doty
Star Ledger, by Lynda Hull
Questions About Angels, by Billy Collins

Alfred Corn / 157
Short Reviews
Living in Time, by Rachel Hadas
Lenten Anniversaries, Poems 1982–1989, by Ben Howard
Even a Fist Was Once an Open Palm with Fingers, by Yehuda Amichai
Collected Poems, by Edwin Morgan
Flow Chart, by John Ashbery

Steven Cramer / 101
Paying Attention
The Really Short Poems of A. R. Ammons
Blue Autumn, by Christopher Buckley
Fate, by Ai
Landscape at the End of the Century, by Stephen Dunn

_____ / 223
Goddesses, Gods, and Devils
The Sacraments of Desire, by Linda Gregg
Selected Poems 1963–1983, by Charles Simic
The Book of Gods and Devils, by Charles Simic

Alice Fulton / 32
On the Plains of Fancy
The Dogwood Tree, by Jennifer Atkinson
No Private Life, by Michelle Boisseau
Bright Moves, by J. Allyn Rosser
Sea Room, by Maria Flook
The Six-Cornered Snowflake and Other Poems, by John Frederick Nims
Zany in Denim, by John Frederick Nims

Robert B. Shaw / 346
Something of Great Constancy
A Howard Nemerov Reader

BOOKS REVIEWED

Ai / 101
Fate
(v. Steven Cramer)

Yehuda Amichai / 157
Even a Fist Was Once an Open Palm with Fingers
(v. Alfred Corn)

A. R. Ammons / 101
The Really Short Poems of . . .
(v. Steven Cramer)

John Ashbery / 147
Flow Chart
(v. Alfred Corn)

Jennifer Atkinson / 32
The Dogwood Tree
(v. Alice Fulton)

Michelle Boisseau / 32
No Private Life
(v. Alice Fulton)

Christopher Buckley / 101
Blue Autumn
(v. Steven Cramer)

Billy Collins / 283
Questions About Angels
(v. David Baker)

Mary Doty / 283
Bethlehem in Broad Daylight
(v. David Baker)

Stephen Dunn / 101
Landscape at the End of the Century
(v. Steven Cramer)

Maria Flook / 32
Sea Room
(v. Alice Fulton)

Linda Gregg / 223
The Sacraments of Desire
(v. Steven Cramer)

Rachel Hadas / 157
Living in Time
(v. Alfred Corn)

Ben Howard / 157
Lenten Anniversaries, Poems 1982–1989
(v. Alfred Corn)

Susan Howe / 283
Singularities
(v. David Baker)

Andrew Hudgins / 283
The Never-Ending
(v. David Baker)

Lynda Hull / 283
Star Ledger
(v. David Baker)

Edwin Morgan / 157
Collected Poems
(v. Alfred Corn)

Howard Nemerov / 346
A Howard Nemerov Reader
(v. Robert B. Shaw)

John Frederick Nims / 32
The Six-Cornered Snowflake and Other Poems
Zany in Denim
(v. Alice Fulton)

J. Allyn Rosser / 32
Bright Moves
(v. Alice Fulton)

Charles Simic / 223
Selected Poems 1963–1983
The Book of Gods and Devils
(v. Steven Cramer)